

English Toolkit: Indicator 2.3.1

Goal 2.0 Composing in a Variety of Modes

Expectation 2.3 The student will locate, retrieve, and use information from various sources to accomplish a purpose.

Indicator 2.3.1 The student will identify sources of information on a self-selected and/or given topic and assess their appropriateness to accomplish a purpose.

Assessment Limits:

Determining the appropriateness of a resource to accomplish a purpose

- dictionary
- thesaurus
- encyclopedia
- magazines
- newspapers
- fiction and nonfiction books
- card catalogue (traditional and electronic)
- on-line websites and electronic resources

Table of Contents

Indicator 2.3.1 Tools

- Public Release Item #1 - Selected Response (SR) - 2006
- Public Release Item #2 - Selected Response (SR) - 2006
- Sample Assessment Item #3 - Selected Response (SR) - 2003
- Sample Assessment Item #4 - Selected Response (SR) - 2002
- Sample Assessment Item #5 - Selected Response (SR) - 2003

Handouts

- English Resource: The *SS Central America*: A Treasure of Gold
- English Resource: Irish Sports
- English Resource: Smithville Beach
- English Resource: Women Nobel Prize Winners

Scoring

- Answer Key

Public Release #1 - Selected Response Item - Released in 2006

English Indicator 2.3.1

Handout(s):

- English Resource: The *SS Central America*: A Treasure of Gold

Miriam is writing a draft of an essay about the *SS Central America*, a ship that sank in 1857. The draft of Miriam's essay requires revisions and edits. Read the draft. Then answer the following:

Which Internet site would most likely provide information about collecting gold recovered from the *SS Central America*?

- A. www.shipwrecks.org/treasurehunting
The online treasure hunter forum provides a place to discuss shipwrecks.
- B. www.bookbrowse.com/nonfiction/excerpts
The exciting adventure of the search for lost sea treasure is told in these excerpts.
- C. www.globalclassroom.org
The shipwreck of the *SS Central America* is an adventure that dates back to the time of the Gold Rush.
- D. www.centralamericatreasures.com
This is the official site of the company with the exclusive rights to sell items salvaged from the *SS Central America*.

Public Release #2 - Selected Response Item - Released in 2006

English Indicator 2.3.1

Handout(s):

- English Resource: Irish Sports

After reading literature from around the world, students researched their own family backgrounds. One student, Shelli, decided to research her Irish heritage and learned that some Irish sports are popular in the United States. The draft of Shelli's essay, "Irish Sports," requires revisions and edits. Read the draft. Then answer the following.

Shelli wants to add more information about Camogie to her report. When she conducted an Internet search using the key words "Irish sports," she found this list of sites. Which site would probably have the most information about Camogie?

- A. [Politics of Irish Athletes](#)
- B. [Irish Sporting Short Stories](#)
- C. [Rules of Irish Sporting Games](#)
- D. [Complete Who's Who in Irish Sports](#)

Sample Assessment #1 - Selected Response Item - Released in 2003

English Indicator 2.3.1

After reading the essay "Starving Pea Pickers," students searched for more information about photographers and photography to use in their own writing. The following question is about what the students did when researching and writing their reports.

Jamal, another student, chose to learn more about developing black-and-white photographs. Which of these websites would most likely provide Jamal with useful information?

- A. Welcome to Sight Photography
In-depth look at the work of some excellent art, editorial, and commercial photographers.
- B. PhotoLinks Directory of Photography Links
Photography directory with tips and techniques, featured sites, bookstore, and more!
- C. Masters of Photography
Feel free to browse through the list of photographers on the left, and be sure to read the articles and check out the resources.
- D. Center for Creative Photography Homepage
Welcome to the Center for Creative Photography at the University of Arizona, a museum and research center devoted to photography as an art form.

Sample Assessment #2 - Selected Response Item - Released in 2002

English Indicator 2.3.1

Handout(s):

- English Resource: Smithville Beach

Sandra wrote a paragraph describing her favorite place, "Smithville Beach." Read the paragraph. Then answer the following:

Sandra would like to compare Smithville Beach to other beaches along the Atlantic Coast.

Which of these would be the best source containing descriptive information about vacations on Atlantic beaches?

- A. *A Road Atlas of the Atlantic Seashore*
- B. *A Visitor's Guide to the Atlantic Seashore*
- C. *A Collector's Guide to Atlantic Sea Shells*
- D. *An Almanac for the Atlantic Coast States*

Sample Assessment #3 - Selected Response Item - Released in 2003

English Indicator 2.3.1

Handout(s):

- English Resource: Women Nobel Prize Winners

For her social studies class, Bettina wrote a short report about women who have won the Nobel Peace Prize. Read the introductory paragraph of Bettina's report, "Women Nobel Prize Winners."

Which of these would most likely include biographical sketches of women who have won the Nobel Peace Prize?

- A. the Internet website for the Nobel Peace Prize
- B. a list of Nobel Peace Prize winners in an almanac
- C. letters between Alfred Nobel and Bertha von Suttner
- D. a biography of Alfred Nobel describing his plans for a peace prize

Handouts

The *SS Central America*: A Treasure of Gold

¹ During the California Gold Rush of the 1850s, miners would leave the Sierra foothills to go to San Francisco to have their gold minted into \$20 gold coins. ² Because the railroad would not be completed for nearly 20 years, the gold was sent by ship from San Francisco to Panama, then overland to the Atlantic coast and transferred to ships that continued to New York City. ³ In 1857, one ship laden with gold coins never made it to its destination.

⁴ The *SS Central America* was off the coast of the Carolinas when a storm hit. ⁵ The storm pounded the ship for three days. ⁶ It tossed the ship about on waves 20 feet high or higher. ⁷ On Saturday, September 12, 1857, the ship sank with its fantastic treasure of gold coins and gold bars still aboard.

⁸ In 1987, 130 years after the ship sank, the wreck of the *SS Central America* was located. ⁹ Using state-of-the-art electronic equipment, sonar, and an undersea robot. ¹⁰ Each coin and artifact was carefully and individually recovered from the bottom of the ocean.

¹¹ Amazingly, the coins looked just as they had when they were minted 130 years before. ¹² Now, each coin is a gold time capsule that preserves memories of the excitement and dangers of the Gold Rush.

Irish Sports

¹You don't have to fly all the way to Ireland to watch or play Irish sports. ²There is an Irish sporting club called the Gaels nearby in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. ³This club was founded in 1988 and is part of the Gaelic athletic association, which has its headquarters in Dublin. ⁴The club sponsors the following three sports, a men's football team, a women's football team, and a Camogie team.

⁵Gaelic football is the most popular sport in Ireland, played by approximately 250,000 people. ⁶It is played on a pitch (or field) larger than a soccer field with a round ball that is slightly smaller than a soccer ball. ⁷The game moves fast since there are no time-outs.

⁸Scores are made when the players pass the ball and then kick it through a soccer-type net or through American football-like goal posts.

⁹Camogie is also known as Hurling and is one of the fastest field games in the world. ¹⁰It is one of the oldest Irish sports. ¹¹It is played with a small ball called a sliothar, which is similar in size to a baseball, and a curved wooden stick called a hurley.

¹²The three teams of the D.C. Gaels have become quite international, with members from the United States, France, England, South Africa—and of course, Ireland. ¹³They have already won many titles. ¹⁴In fact, the women's football team has made it to the national semi-finals twice. ¹⁵This must be what is known as the luck of the Irish.

Smithville Beach

¹A visit to Smithville Beach is sure to be a delightful summer vacation. ²According to a recent survey this resort is the most popular beach on the Atlantic Coast. ³Visitors enjoy the many sights, sounds, and smells. ⁴Floating through the salty air, you'll be greeted by sounds of laughter and happy shouts. ⁵Expect to see sights like a brightly colored plastic ball flying by and then landing on the sand, kicking up a fine spray of clean, white sand. ⁶From the concession stands along the boardwalk, the aroma of fries and cotton candy drifts out. ⁷Hundreds of colorful blankets, toys, coolers, and picnic baskets dot the sand. ⁸The white and gray surf pounds the shore. ⁹The surf sends seagulls and children running. ¹⁰Surfers enjoy the waves. ¹¹Smithville Beach is a wonderful place where all kinds of things happen.

Women Nobel Prize Winners

¹The Nobel Peace Prize was established in 1896 in Alfred Nobel's will. ²He was the inventor of dynamite and wanted to award the prize to the person who accomplished the most to promote peace. ³In the history of the Nobel Peace Prize, few have gone to women. ⁴The first woman to receive the prize was the Baroness Bertha von Suttner. ⁵Her anti-war novel *Lay Down Your Arms* had a tremendous impact on those who read it. ⁶As a peace activist, the Baroness had an impact on Alfred Nobel's thinking and influenced him to establish the prize. ⁷The Peace Prize is given to persons who help create peace in the world. ⁸Other women who have won the Peace Prize represent different nationalities and different racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. ⁹The women who have won the Peace Prize are similar in several ways. ¹⁰All campaigned against war opposed violence or fought for human rights. ¹¹These women worked hard for their beliefs and displayed remarkable courage.

English Indicator 2.3.1 Answer Key

Public Release Item #1 - Selected Response (SR) - 2006

D. www.centralamericatreasures.com

This is the official site of the company with the exclusive rights to sell items salvaged from the *SS Central America*.

Public Release Item #2 - Selected Response (SR) - 2006

C. [Rules of Irish Sporting Games](#)

Sample Assessment Item #3 - Selected Response (SR) - 2003

B. [PhotoLinks Directory of Photography Links](#)

Photography directory with tips and techniques, featured sites, bookstore, and more!

Sample Assessment Item #4 - Selected Response (SR) - 2002

B. *A Visitor's Guide to the Atlantic Seashore*

Sample Assessment Item #5 - Selected Response (SR) - 2003

A. the Internet website for the Nobel Peace Prize